

WE

Executive Registry

120-4882

20 June 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ACTING DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: The Japanese Situation

The Board of National Estimates has had a series of meetings, attended by knowledgeable representatives from OCI and DDP, aimed at the production of a short estimate on the situation in Japan and its world-wide repercussions. The Board has decided however that it would be most useful to forward to you three conclusions which emerged from our last discussion. These are:

(a) That demonstrations and riots against Kishi and against the US-Japan Security Treaty will probably continue, though not necessarily on the scale lately experienced;

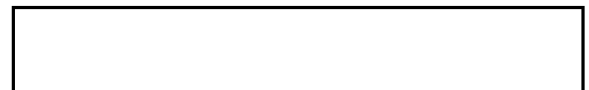
(b) That the new Treaty, even though ratified, will be under increasing attack, and that the US base position in Japan is likely therefore to be substantially weakened;

(c) That despite the fact that the Communists participated in the demonstrations, and to some degree directed them, there were deep and strong feelings of pacifism and neutralism

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in Japan which furnished tacit support to the demonstrators,
and must not be underestimated. The US has probably overestimated
popular Japanese support for Kishi's policies and the maintenance
of US bases.

FOR THE BOARD OF NATIONAL ESTIMATES:



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SHERMAN KENT
Chairman

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